

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NEW DE 05244 081501Z

70

ACTION INT-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 ERDA-07 /030 W

----- 112311

R 081235Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO RUEHDC/USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5198
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 5244

DEPT PLEASE PASS MESA, USBURMINES, USGS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, IN

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL MARKET FOR MINE SAFETY EQUIPMENT

REF: NEW DELHI 5098

1. DURING RECENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE MINERALS ATTACHE AND THE DIRECTOR GENERAL MINES SAFETY, S.S. PRASAD, IN DHANBAD, PRASAD STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE NEED FOR GREATER MINE SAFETY MEASURES AND EQUIPMENT AND MORE COMPREHENSIVE MINE SAFETY LEGISLATION.

2. AMONG THE EQUIPMENT PRASAD CONSIDERED TO BE OF FIRST PRIORITY WERE SELF-RESCUERS, HYDRAULIC STEEL SUPPORTS, ELECTRONIC GAS MONITORING DEVICES AND MULTI-CHANNEL MINE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT. HE SAW THE NEED FOR A RELIABLE COMMUNICATION NETWORK LINKING SURFACE WITH SUBSURFACE OPERATIONS AND EACH MINE WITH THE NEAREST MINE RESCUE STATION. THERE ARE CURRENTLY 11 SUCH RESCUE STATIONS LOCATED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

3. PRASAD FORESEES A NEW LEGISLATION BEING PASSED IN THE NEAR FUTURE MAKING COMPULSORY THE USE OF SELF-RESCUERS BY ALL UNDERGROUND WORKINGS AS WELL. HE ESTIMATED THE POTENTIAL MARKET FOR SELF-RESCUERS AT 300,000-400,000. SINCE AT LEAST 60 PERCENT OF ALL FATAL ACCIDENTS OCCUR

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NEW DE 05244 081501Z

FROM CAVE-INS. PRASAD IS STRONG ADVOCATE OF STEEL SUPPORTS WHICH ARE USED IN ONLY ABOUT 10PERCENT OF THE MINES. ALTHOUGH LONG-WALL MINING IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR A NUMBER OF UNDERGROUND MINES, WHICH SHOULD REDUCE THE HAZARDS DUE TO INADEQUATE ROOF SUPPORT, THE "BOARD AND PILLAR" METHOD IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN DOMINATE IN INDIA FOR SOME TIME TO COME.

4. FOR IFY 1976/77 THE MINISTRY OF LABOR HAS ALLOCATED RS. 27 MILLION (DOLS3 MILLION) TO THE DGMS FOR SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND RESCUE OPERATIONS, NEARLY DOUBLE FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR. SHOULD NEW MINING LAWS BE ENACTED, AND WE SUSPECT THE MINISTRY OF LABOR WILL PRESS FOR LEGISLATION IN VIEW OF THE CHASNALA MINE DISASTER THAT OCCURRED IN DECEMBER 1975, EXPENDITURES FOR MINE SAFETY ITEMS COULD INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY.

5. DURING TALKS WITH R. E. MAHENDRU, CIL'S DIRECTOR OF COORDINATION, HE ALSO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING MOBILE RESCUE EQUIPMENT READILY AVAILABLE AT SELECTED SITES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. MAHENDRU NOTED IN PARTICULAR THE NEED FOR 30" DIAMETER DRILLING EQUIPMENT TO REACH TRAPPED MINERS AND MOBILE WINDING ENGINES WITH ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT TO RECOVER MINERS VIA SUCH ACCESS WAYS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: USDOC CONTACT US MANUFACTURERS OF MINE SAFETY AND COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AND APPRISE THEM OF THE POSSIBILITY FOR DIRECT SALES, LICENSING AGREEMENTS OR JOINT VENTURES TO MARKET SUCH EQUIPMENT IN INDIA. INTERESTED COMPANIES SHOULD CONTACT S.S. PRASAD, DIRECTOR GENERAL MINES SAFETY, DHANBAD, AND H.B. GHOSE, MANAGING DIRECTOR COAL MINES PLANNING AND DESIGN INSTITUTE (CMPDI) RANCHI, BIHAR STATE, INDIA.SCHNEIDER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MINE SAFETY, RESCUE EQUIPMENT, MINING LAW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE05244
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760133-0860
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760483/aaaacssm.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION INT
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 NEW DELHI 5098
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUN 2004 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <22 DEC 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POTENTIAL MARKET FOR MINE SAFETY EQUIPMENT
TAGS: EMIN, IN, (PRASAD, S S)
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006